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Parkland College

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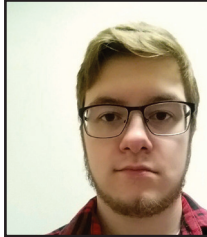
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**Opinion |**  
Cold War

Editor Matt Moss writes about the dawn of a new Cold War and why it means nothing.  
Page 2



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## Career guidance, employment help available at Career Center

**Peter Floess**  
Staff Writer

Every student has been asked about his or her major and future job plans. For those who may not have the answers to these questions and many others, Parkland's Career Center can help.

Parkland has had a Career Center-like institution for over 30 years, and the latest iteration helps 14,000 current and prospective Parkland students each year with the important decisions that plague the minds of college-level scholars everywhere.

According to the Director of the Career Center Sandy Spencer, the center has three main purposes: "to help students decide on their college major and/or career, to help students with their job search skills, and to help students in finding on and off campus employment."

The College Central Network (CCN) is a web database offered to different colleges to help their students find employment. Career consultant Carrie Harris says through CCN the Career Center offers 2,500 registered employers both on and off campus.

"Employers register on our [CCN] job posting board or they ask us to post the job," Spencer says.

The Career Center also has a list of both on- and off-campus jobs available for prospective employees to peruse in room U238.

The Career Center offers other services in addition to listing jobs.

"We also offer individual or group interest surveys, and personality assessments..." Harris says. "Students can utilize individual counseling appointments for résumé and cover letter writing assistance. The Career Center also holds on campus job fairs each semester and various workshops and presentations during the academic year. We offer mock interviews and assistance with social media in the job search using tools such as LinkedIn."



Photo by Zonghui Li | The Prospectus

The Career Center at Parkland College provides resources for students looking for on or off-campus jobs.

Harris encourages students to take advantage of the résumé consulting services at the Career Center.

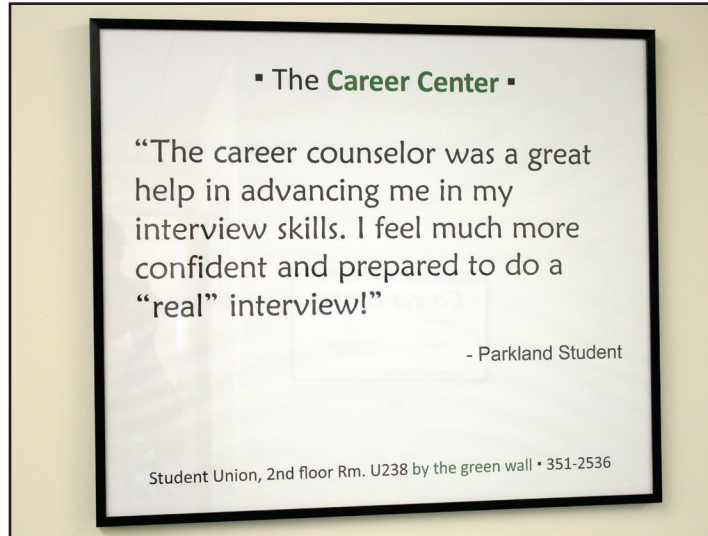
"Having an organized résumé with both your soft or people skills such as listening and teamwork and technical skills will help you to articulate these strengths during the interview process," Harris says. "The Career Center stays up to date on the latest employment trends both nationally and within our district."

"We make sure students are receiving the latest information on resume formatting and social media changes as they affect the job search process," she says. "Sometimes it's difficult to find reputable resources online."

Harris also says instructors may be able provide to interested students information on and opportunities for jobs or internships in the field they teach.

Student worker at the Career Center Megan Counter provides a view into the daily interworking of career center.

She says her daily work at the Career Center involves updating and entering



"regional employment listings into the CCN, provide student employment information and assist Parkland students with applications and employment forms, schedule counseling appointments with office career counselors, greet visitors and answer questions, answer phones, prepare handouts for presentations, assist with annual job fairs, among other things."

Counter says that working at the career center has taught her, "a great deal about interviewing, how to construct a resume, and many other helpful aspects about the workplace."

Harris would like to remind Parkland students to not "wait until [their] last semester to use the Career Center services."

"We can help you all along your college career from helping you discover a major that is best suited to your interest, skills, and values, all the way through prepping for that first job interview," she said.

The Career Center's web portal can be accessed from the Parkland College homepage. Click on "College Resources" at the top of the screen; the "Career Center" link can be found on this page.

## HUMANS OF PARKLAND

Adam Porter



Photo by Scott Wells | The Prospectus

**Scott Wells**  
Staff Writer

Adam Porter serves two major roles at Parkland; not only has he taught communications courses at the home of the Cobras for the last two years, but he is also the faculty advisor for Parkland's new record label, Perimeter Road Sound Recordings.

"Growing up, I was an avid fan of skateboarding and music," said Porter. "I have also been interested and involved in audio recording and production from a young age."

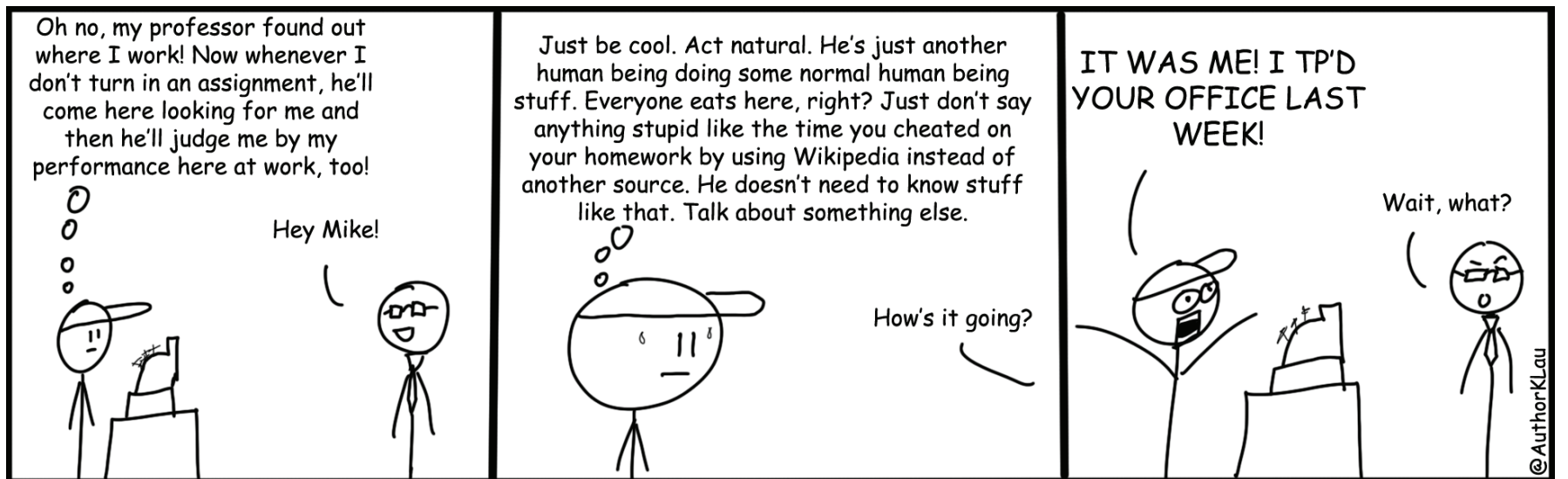
He currently teaches all of the radio and music recording classes on campus, including Basic Broadcast Announcing, Radio Production, and Introduction to Music Recording.

Before coming to Parkland, the Mount Vernon, Ill., native studied at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, where he earned his Master's in Professional Media and Media Management.

The establishment of Perimeter Road was a dream come true for him.

"I proposed this idea when I first came to Parkland, and thankfully had a strong ally in Nancy Sutton, who is now the dean of arts and

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### Fact or Fiction

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# OPINION

## Dawn of a new cold war and why it means nothing

**Matt Moss**  
Editor

Russia and the United States-led North Atlantic Treaty Organization have continuously traded threats and ultimatums since the civil turmoil in Ukraine began two-and-a-half years ago, leading some to say the two sides are entering a new cold war.

Even if this is the case, it is no cause for alarm; it means nothing.

In early 1945, Allied tanks raced through the forests of Western Europe, endeavoring to beat the Soviets to Berlin. They failed, as the red armies laid siege to the heart of Germany and raised their union's flag over the Reichstag. In that moment, a new war began—one where words, threats, and espionage were the weapons of choice.

This cold war came to an end with the disintegration of the United Soviet Socialist Republics in the late Eighties and early Nineties, as its people lost their faith in the union and one by one the Soviet member states proclaimed their independence.

In the wake of what was arguably the world's most powerful country came the fledgling Russian Federation, a nation with democracy as its ideal and the privatization of the economy as its objective. Make no mistake, however; Russia—as the primary inheritor of the Soviet Union's political power and the sole inheritor of its enormous nuclear arsenal—is no pushover.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the American-led military bloc formed to counter the influence and power of the Soviet Union in post-World War II Europe, watched tensely as soldiers believed to belong to the Russian military entered the Ukrainian-owned peninsula of Crimea and prevented Ukrainian defense forces from leaving their bases.

After a landslide vote by the Crimean people the tiny-but-strategic Black Sea peninsula joined Russia, where it remains today.

Western nations responded with huge economic sanctions against Russia and blacklisting members of its government. These sanctions remain in place, with no signs of being lifted any time soon; in fact, sanctions are likely to become even heftier.

Although initial signs showed the Russian economy slumping due to a lack of trade with most of Europe and North America, it has since begun to recover as it focuses on placing greater emphasis on domestic resources and dealing with friendlier and more ambivalent partners.

As NATO and Russia continue to dish out threat after threat, ultimatum after ultimatum, there has spawned a fear of the dawn of a new cold war.

NATO held a high-level conference of its 28 member states in Warsaw, Poland, last month, as 25,000 soldiers and legions of armored vehicles and warplanes from 16 member countries took part in Anakonda 2016, a capabilities exercise largely determined by analysts to be a direct show of force to Russia, right along Poland's border with Russian satellite state Belarus.

Anakonda counters constant, similar exercises undertaken by the Russian military along its border with Ukraine, which NATO leaders fear could be turned into an invasion force of Eastern Europe at the drop of a hat. Hence NATO's plan to station 5,000 combat-ready soldiers along Russia's border with member states Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, and Poland come next year.

But, in reality, none of this means anything.

It is likely we are entering an era of a new cold war. The United States and the Russian state have been at odds with one another since the age of the latter's tsarist monarchy. Instead of questioning why American relations with Russia are becoming colder as of late, people should be questioning how they thawed in the first place; the fact relations ever did thaw is far more surprising.

Of course, there exists a

fear of global thermonuclear war, kicked off by Russia and the U.S. trading their atomic arsenals in a not-too-amicable way.

However, as has been shown in the past, such fears may not be warranted.

Russia and the United States both retain the prerogative to use nuclear weapons in a first strike. In Russia's case, this marks a change from the Soviet Union's policy which stated it would only launch if its opponent launched first.

Despite this, it is doubtful Russia would ever nuke the United States or its allies, as the U.S. enjoys an unrivaled second strike capability thanks to its well-maintained nuclear triad. Countless ground-based silos containing intercontinental nuclear missiles, a fleet of secretive nuclear submarines, and thousands of bombers capable of dropping nuclear bombs ensure that any enemy could not possibly eliminate its ability to fire back in the event of World War III.

Long story short: Russia nukes NATO, Russia gets nuked twice-fold.

As the U.S. goes, Uncle Sam has no interest in a nuclear exchange, as part of President Obama's "agenda for reducing nuclear dangers," and has even pursued—with resistance both foreign and domestic—under the president's regime a reduction and eventual elimination of nuclear weapons worldwide, including America's arsenal in tandem with Russia.

While the goal of total global nuclear disarmament is incredibly unlikely to ever come to fruition, it is an amicable goal, but simply serves to solidify the idea that America has no intention of blowing up the world.

From the conventional warfare side, it is just as unlikely NATO and Russian troops would ever go toe-to-toe, minus the mushroom clouds.

Combined, NATO's active military manpower is around two million, with the U.S. Military making up over half this value. It also boasts

a highly-modern arsenal of tanks and armored vehicles numbering in the high tens of thousands, plus approximately 3,000 combat aircraft, again with the U.S. forming the brunt of NATO's aerial warfare capabilities.

The Russian Armed Forces, citing human relations and hazing problems within its drafted ranks, in the last decade reduced the length of service for its conscript soldiers from two years to one. And, with what is called by Russia's former senior general Nikolai Makarov "a serious problem" which he "make[s] no bones about" is a lack of young men capable for drafting into the armed services. This has led to a sharp decline in the available manpower of Russia's ground combat forces, from about 700,000 in the mid-Nineties to a present approximate value of 250,000.

Russia's military is also suffering from underfunding, meaning it has struggled to effectively upgrade its aging Soviet-era weaponry and vehicles to modern standards. Its air force may be large and bolstered by a few high-tech planes of recent manufacture, but on a good day can only put up about half the number of planes as NATO can.

If Russia was intending to make war with NATO, it would need all the boons it could get—boons it simply does not have. Clearly, NATO does not expect a war either; moving only 5,000 troops to its borders with Russia would not deter a determined force numbering in the hundreds of thousands.

If anything is to come of this new cold war, it will be in economics. American and its European friends will continue to slap sanctions after sanctions on Russia, and Moscow and its pals will be sure to do the same to them.

There will be plenty of big talk, threats, and ultimatums coming from both sides. But, as we witness the dawn of a new cold war, we should realize how truly meaningless it is in reality.

## HUMANS OF PARKLAND

continued from page one



sciences," he stated. "Nancy had wanted to do something like this for a long time, so it seemed to be the perfect opportunity to get the project off the ground. We started by acquiring some professional recording equipment and setting up a space to perform and record."

He says he often has to wear a few different hats when working in the studio.

"I am primarily playing the role of teacher and advisor during recording sessions for the record label. The goal is to provide learning opportunities for students that are interested in gaining music business experience," he noted. "While I try to make sure that the sessions run smoothly, quality sounds are being captured, and informed choices are being made (which can lead to 'producer' territory), I also make it a priority to let the students make decisions and be involved in the creative and technical process as much as possible."

He finds a great deal of satisfaction in the success of his students.

"The most exciting part of this for me is when I see students get excited," he said. "Whether it comes from creatively solving a problem, learning a new skill or technique, or simply hearing their own great recordings coming through the speakers, it is a thrill to see students having fun while learning."

He currently teaches an online course during the summer, is already looking forward to the fall semester.

"We will have a fresh group of radio and recording students, most of which will be on-air and producing content in studios for the first time in their lives," he said. "We will also be releasing the first album recorded on campus for the new record label, which is an EP by the up-and-coming local band The Inn Keepers. There is definitely a lot to look forward to!"

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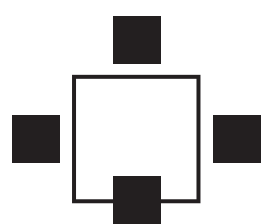




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